The Lord Biſhop of Rocheſter's *LETTER to the Right Honourable the Lords Commiſſioners of His Majeſties* Eccleſiaſtical Court.

MY LORDS,

I Moſt humbly intreat your Lordſhips favourable Interpretation of what I now Write, that ſince your Lordſhips are reſolved to proceed againſt thoſe who have not Complied with the *King's Command* in Reading his *Declaration*, it is abſolutely impoſſible for me to ſerve his Majeſty any longer in this *Commiſſion*. I beg leave to tell your Lordſhips, That tho' I my ſelf did *Submit* in that particular, Yet I will never be any ways Inſtrumental in Puniſhing thoſe my *Brethren* that did not: For as I call God to Witneſs, that what I did was meerly on a *Principle of Conſcience*, ſo I am fully ſatisfied, that their forbearance was upon the ſame *Principle*. I have no reaſon to think otherwiſe of the whole Body of the *Clergy*, who upon all Occaſions have ſignalized their *Loyalty to the Crown*, and their *Zealous Affections to his preſent Majeſties Perſon, in the worſt of Times*. Now my Lords, the Safety of the Church of *England*, ſeeming to be exceedingly Concern'd in this *Proſecution*, I muſt Declare I cannot with a ſafe Conſcience ſit as Judge in this Cauſe upon ſo many *Pious* and *Excellent Men*, with whom (if it be God's Will) it rather becomes me to ſuffer, than to be in the leaſt acceſſary to their *Sufferings*: I therefore Earneſtly Requeſt your Lordſhip to interceed with his Majeſty, That I may be Graciouſly diſmiſſed any further Attendance at the *Board*, and to aſſure him, that I am ſtill ready to Sacrifice whatever I have to his Service; but my *Conſcience* & *Religion*.

My Lords,

Your Lordſhips moſt Faithful

and Humble Servant

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